IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please **AMEND** claims in accordance with the following:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A client/server system comprising:

a server, comprising:

<u>client-side</u> software <u>at the server</u> to generate operating instructions for an I/O device connected to a client;

a <u>client-side</u> device driver ~~to function~~ at the server ~~as a client-side device driver~~ for input-output control of a client-side I/O port controlling the I/O device connected to the client ~~as the client-side I/O device~~, based on the operating instructions from the <u>client-side</u> software <u>at the server</u>; and

a virtual I/O port ~~to function~~ at the server <u>to provide the client-side device driver at the server with an interface having same function as an I/O port at the client as the client-side I/O port for the client-side device driver at the server</u> ~~as a client-side I/O port interface to the device driver~~ by transmitting an input-output control received from the <u>client-side</u> device driver <u>at the server</u> and informing the <u>client-side</u> device driver <u>at the server</u> of ~~a~~<u>an</u> event received ~~client-side~~<u>from the</u> I/O device ~~event~~<u>connected to the client</u>; and

a client ~~communicably connectable~~<u>in communication</u> with the server and ~~communicably connectable with the client-side~~<u>connected to the</u> I/O device, the client comprising:

a client-side device handler to receive the input-output control from the virtual I/O port in the server and to transmit the ~~client-side I/O device~~ event<u>, from the I/O device connected to the client,</u> to the ~~server~~<u>virtual</u> I/O port <u>in the server</u>, ~~and~~

~~a client-side I/O port to control the client-side~~<u>wherein the I/O port at the client controls the</u> I/O device <u>connected to the client</u> according to an input-output control from the client-side device handler.

2.　　　(CANCELLED)

3.　　　(CURRENTLY AMENDED) A server ~~in communication with a client~~, comprising:
client-side software ~~at the server~~ to generate operating instructions for an I/O device ~~of a client as a client-side I/O device~~connected to the client, ~~the client communicably connected to the server, and the client communicably connectable via a client-side I/O port to the I/O device of the client~~;
a ~~client-side~~ device driver ~~to function~~ at the server ~~as a client-side device driver~~for input-output control of ~~the~~a client-side I/O port controlling the I/O device connected to the client, based upon the operating instructions from the ~~client-side~~ software ~~at the server~~; and
a virtual I/O port ~~to function~~ at the server ~~as a client-side I/O port interface to the device driver~~to provide the client-side device driver at the server with an interface having same function as an I/O port at the client as the client-side I/O port for the client-side device driver at the server by transmitting an input-output control signal received from the ~~client-side~~ device driver ~~at the server~~ to a client-side device handler of the client, ~~the client-side device handler~~ in communication via ~~the~~a client-side I/O port ~~at the client~~ with the client-side I/O device, and by informing the ~~client-side~~ device driver ~~at the server~~ of ~~a client-side I/O device~~an event received from the client-side device handler.

4.　　　(CURRENTLY AMENDED) A client ~~in communication with the server~~, comprising:
a client-side device handler to receive input-output control for a client-side I/O device, from a ~~server~~client-side device driver ~~at the server~~ through ~~a server~~a virtual I/O port in ~~a~~the server ~~communicably connected with the client~~, and to transmit a client-side I/O device event ~~from the client~~ to the ~~server~~client-side device driver ~~at the server~~ through the ~~server~~virtual I/O port ~~at the server~~.

5.　　　(CURRENTLY AMENDED) The client according to claim 4, further comprising:
at least one client-side I/O port, which is coupled with the client-side I/O device, and which is controlled by the ~~client-side~~ device driver in the server.

6.　　　(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The client/server system of claim 1, wherein the

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client-side I/O device is a bar code reader.

7.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The client/server system of claim 1, wherein the client and server communicate via a LAN.

8.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The client/server system of claim 1, wherein the client and server communicate via the WWW.

9.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A client/server system comprising:

a client comprising:

at least one I/O device ~~connected to the server~~in communication with the client as a client-side I/O device, and

a ~~programmed computer processor to function as a device handler~~controller handling data communication, including an I/O event from the at least one client-side I/O device, via a client-side I/O port ~~connected to~~in communication with the at least one client-side I/O device; and

a server communicably connectable with the client and comprising:

a ~~programmed computer processor to function at the server as~~controller functioning as a client-side device driver at the server for input-output control of the client-side I/O port controlling the I/O device connected to the client, and ~~to function at the server as a client-side I/O port interface~~functioning as an interface having same function as the client-side I/O port at the client as the client-side I/O port to the client-side device driver at the server by transmitting an input-output control received from the client-side device driver at the server to the client ~~device handler~~controller and informing the client-side device driver at the server of ~~a client-side I/O~~an event received from the client ~~device handler~~controller.

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